

### *Highlights Importance of Census for Hudson Valley; Announces Upcoming Census-Related Job Opportunities for Residents*

*Newburgh, NY* - Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) and U.S. Census Bureau officials today formally opened the local Census Bureau office for Orange, Sullivan, and Delaware counties. Hinchey and Census Bureau officials discussed the importance of the 2010 Census for New York and encouraged public participation in the census. Hinchey and Census Bureau officials also discussed upcoming job openings related to the collection of census data.

"A full participation in the 2010 Census among local residents will help ensure that the region gets its fair share of federal resources," Hinchey said. "It is extremely important that everyone living in the area fills out the surveys they will receive in March so that our region is not shortchanged and receives the full level of federal funding it needs and deserves. The 2010 Census also presents a very good opportunity for thousands of area residents to gain temporary, part-time employment while helping to ensure that their communities are accurately counted."

The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years to count the population and determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. The information the U.S. Census Bureau collects every 10 years on the U.S. population also helps to determine how more than \$400 billion dollars in federal funding is spent each year on infrastructure and services such as hospitals, job training centers, schools, senior centers, and emergency services, as well as bridges, roads and other public works projects. Maximizing participation in the 2010 Census by residents of the Hudson Valley and Catskills will help ensure that these regions receive their fair share of federal resources.

More than 130 million addresses throughout the U.S. will receive a census form in March 2010 either by mail or in person from a census worker. Households should complete and return their forms upon receipt. Addresses that do not respond will be visited in person by a census worker beginning in late April through July. With only 10 questions, the 2010 Census questionnaire takes approximately 10 minutes to complete. Households are asked to provide key demographic information, including: whether a housing unit is rented or owned; the address of the residence; and the names, genders, ages, and races of others living in the household. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities.

The Census Bureau will be hiring thousands of part-time, temporary employees to undertake the count over the coming months. The Census Bureau has been testing prospective applicants since October so that it has a large enough pool of applicants when its staffing needs peak. The Census Bureau is still giving the employment tests, which are required for all those seeking positions (scores determine the order of hiring). Individuals interested in obtaining a job with the Census Bureau can schedule a time to take the test by calling 1-866-861-2010. At this number, job applicants will be asked for their zip code so that they can be directed to the appropriate local office (this number is good throughout the state). Individuals living in Orange, Sullivan and Delaware counties, which are served by the Newburgh office, can call the Newburgh recruitment officials directly at 845-476-3050. The various field positions provide compensation starting at \$16 per hour along with reimbursement for certain travel expenses. More information is also available at: [www.2010censusjobs.gov](http://www.2010censusjobs.gov).